Appl. No. 10/760,168
Resp. dated February 16, 2006
Reply to Office Action of February 3, 2006

Requirement for Restriction/Election

The Examiner has required restriction to one of the following inventions:

- I. Claims 1 20, drawn to a slot track storage system, classified in class 312,
 subclass 94.01.
- II. Claims 21 36, drawn to a storage system, classified in class 312, subclass 132.
- Claims 37 41, drawn to a workroom organization system, classified in class312, subclass 249.9.
- IV. Claims 42 46, drawn to a workroom organization system, classified in class
 52, subclass 36.5.

Applicants elect Claims 1 - 20, Group I for examination with traverse.

Argument

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims 1 - 20 and 21 - 36 are properly classified together and according should not separated into Groups I and II.

Specifically, if claims 1 - 20 are properly classifiable in Class 211, subclass 94.01, claims 21 - 36 are as well. In addition, applicants respectfully submit that neither claims 21 - 36 nor claims 1 - 20 appear to be properly classifiable in class 312, subclass 132 since no cabinet structure classifiable in class 312, subclass 114 is present in claims 1 - 36. Claims 21 - 36 contain similar limitations to claims 1 - 20 with the addition of slotwall panel limitations that should be classified similar to a slot track.

Further, applicants respectfully submit that claims 37 - 41 and 42 - 46 are properly classified together and accordingly should not be separated into Groups III and IV. Specifically, if claims 37 - 41 are properly classifiable in class 312, subclass 249.9, claims 42 - 46 are as well. In addition, applicants respectfully submit that neither claims 42 - 46 nor claims 37 - 41 appear to be properly classifiable in class 52, subclass 36.5, see the comments in the class definition that suggest class 312 for structures like those set forth in claims 37 - 46. Claims 42 - 46 contain similar

Appl. No. 10/760,168 Resp. dated February 16, 2006 Reply to Office Action of February 3, 2006

limitations to claims 37 - 41 with the addition of slotwall panel limitations that should be classified similar to a slot track.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that the restriction requirement should be modified to two groups, namely Group I including claims 1 - 36 and Group II including claims 37 - 46. Applicants' election of claims 1 - 20 should be interpreted as electing claims 1 - 36 upon the Examiner agreement with applicants' proposed modification of the restriction requirement to two groups as set forth above.

Early and favorable action on this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February/L. 2005

WHIRLPOOL PATENTS COMPANY 500 Renaissance Drive - Ste. 102 MD750 St. Joseph, Michigan 49085

Telephone (269) 923-7441

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being:

deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450.

transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office. to Central Pacsimile Number 571-273-8300.

Robert L. Judd, Registration No. 25,172

February (2005

(type or print name of person certifying)